

## **Appendix D**

### **Memorandum – Summary of Preliminary Public Input for the Development of Management Strategies for Lake Powell and Lake Mead, Including Lower Basin Shortage Guidelines, Under Low Reservoir Condition, September, 2005**

# MEMORANDUM

Date: September 7, 2005

To: File  
Administrative Record

From: Terrance Fulp, Area Manager, Boulder Canyon Operations Office,  
Lower Colorado Region  
Randy Peterson, Chief, Environmental Resources Division,  
Upper Colorado Region

Subject: Summary of Preliminary Public Input for the Development of  
Management Strategies for Lake Powell and Lake Mead, including Lower  
Basin Shortage Guidelines, Under Low Reservoir Conditions

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## INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this memorandum is to summarize and document the activities and results of the initial public involvement process. The Secretary of the Interior (Secretary) has directed the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) to develop additional Colorado River management strategies to address operations of Lake Powell and Lake Mead, including Lower Basin Shortage Guidelines, under low reservoir conditions.

Reclamation is proceeding, at this time, under the assumption that the development of the guidelines and management strategies may require preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement. Reclamation intends to utilize a public process during the development of management strategies for Lake Powell and Lake Mead under low reservoir conditions. As such, Reclamation has invited interested members of the general public, including the seven Colorado River Basin States, Indian Tribes, water and power contractors, environmental organizations, representatives of academic and scientific communities, representatives of the recreation industry, and other organizations and agencies to present oral and written comments concerning the content, format, mechanism, and analysis to be considered during the development of these proposed strategies.

This technical memorandum is organized as follows:

- Introduction and Background

- Public Participation Process
- Comment Review and Database Entry

This memorandum also provides the following supporting information, included as attachments to this technical memorandum.

**Attachments:**

- A. Acronyms
- B. Federal Register Notice
- C. Notices of Public Meetings – News Releases
- D. Public Meeting Sign-In Sheets
- E. Public–Meeting- PowerPoint Presentation

## **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS**

The public participation process for the proposed Action was designed to solicit input from the public; from federal, state, and local agencies; and from other interested parties concerning the content, format, mechanism, and analysis to be considered during the development of the proposed strategies and guidelines. As part of this process, Reclamation held two public meetings that provided the public an opportunity to present their comments. These public meetings were attended by individuals and groups interested in the management of the Colorado River water supplies, the operation of the facilities that are used in the management of these supplies, and other aspects of the proposed Project.

### **Public Notices**

Reclamation published in the June 15, 2005, Federal Register, Volume 70, No. 114, page 34794-34795, a notice to solicit comments from the public and Reclamation's intent to hold two meetings to receive additional oral or written comments from the public relative to the subject project. A copy of the Federal Register notice is provided in Attachment B.

Reclamation also issued News Releases on June 15, 2005 and on July 22, 2005 that were published in various upper and lower Colorado River basin community newspapers. These two news releases also provided notice of Reclamation's intention to hold two meetings to receive additional oral or written comments from the public relative to the subject project. Copies of these two news releases are provided in Attachment C.

Lastly, Reclamation also published the above notices on its Website at the following address:

<http://www.usbr.gov/newsroom/newsrelease/index.cfm>

### **Public Meetings**

Reclamation conducted two public meetings to solicit input from the public with respect to the content, format, mechanism, and analysis to be considered during the development of these proposed strategies and guidelines. In general, the public meeting and public comment process resulted in good participation by a cross section of the general public, including local business communities and special interest and environmental groups, as

well as federal, state, and local agencies. The meetings were held at the locations and on the dates noted below.

According to sign-in sheets from the two public meetings, a total of 79 individuals attended the meetings. Attachment D contains copies of the sign-in sheets from the two public meetings.

**Table 1**  
**Public Meeting Attendance**

<b>Meeting Date/Time</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Number of Attendees</b>
Tuesday July 26, 2005 10 a.m. to 12 noon	Henderson Convention Center, Grand Ballroom, 200 South Water Street, Henderson, Nevada.	46
Thursday July 28, 2005 10 a.m. to 12 noon	Hilton Salt Lake City Center, Topaz Room, 255 South West Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah	33

Reclamation staff provided a presentation to the attendees at each of the two meetings. The presentation generally followed the following outline:

- ◆ Welcome and Introductions
- ◆ Purpose of Meeting
- ◆ Background on proposed study
- ◆ Objectives of the study
- ◆ Process Schedule
- ◆ Information on Issues/Processes

A copy of the presentation is provided in Attachment E. The presentation was followed by a question and answer period.

The attendees were instructed to submit their comments and suggestions in writing to one of the following addresses:

Regional Director  
Bureau of Reclamation  
Lower Colorado Region  
Attention: BCOO-1000  
P.O. Box 61470  
Boulder City, Nevada 89006-1470  
Email: [strategies@lc.usbr.gov](mailto:strategies@lc.usbr.gov)  
Faxogram: (702) 293-8156

Regional Director  
Bureau of Reclamation  
Upper Colorado Region  
Attention: UC-402  
125 South State Street  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84318-1147  
Email: [strategies@uc.usbr.gov](mailto:strategies@uc.usbr.gov)  
Faxogram: (801) 524-3858

### **Comment Period**

Reclamation provided a 77-day comment period consistent with the Public Notice issued on June 15, 2005. The comment period closed on August 31, 2005.

## **COMMENT REVIEW AND DATABASE ENTRY**

This section presents a summary of the number and general content of the comments received during the public comment period. All public comments received were directed to Reclamation to ensure consistency and accuracy of handling and disposition. All written comments received were processed consistent with the following set of protocols.

### **Comment Receipt and Cataloging**

Comments were received by Reclamation's Upper and Lower Colorado Region Offices.. Reclamation's Lower Colorado Regional Office staff screened the comments to identify duplicate copies of letters received from the same Commentors.<sup>1</sup> Original copies of all comment letters are being maintained by Reclamation.

As comments were received, the comment letters were assigned a code and source identification and entered into a database. Code identifications were assigned according to the following method:

1. Comments were classified and assigned a letter code according to commentor type or category, i.e. federal agency (F), state agency (S), local agency or water district (L), special interest or environmental group (G), individual (I), business (B).
2. A number code was then assigned to identify comment letters by the sequence in which they were received. For example, the third letter received from a local agency was assigned the code "L.003", which signifies that that this was the third letter received from a local agency.

### **Data Entry of Individual Comments**

Following initial cataloging, each comment letter was evaluated and the specific comments provided therein were identified. When more than one issue was presented within any given comment letter, an additional numeric code was used to define the order in which the comments/issues were presented within the letter. For example, the second comment/issue raised within the third letter received from a local agency would be assigned the following code "L-0003.2."

Individual comment summaries were then entered into a sortable and searchable database to facilitate subsequent efficient summarization and retrieval of specific comments related to specific issues. It should be noted that several hundred form letters (identical comment letters) were received. While each commentor and respective comments were considered, the approximately identical form letters were grouped to minimize the number of database entries.

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<sup>1</sup> The word "commentor" is a commonly used term in the NEPA process and EIS preparation process and generally refers to any person, agency, or other entity that provides written or oral comments or input relative to the content, process, scope, or analysis of the NEPA/EIS process.

## Data Analysis and Summarization

After being entered into the database, comments were sorted by three main categories;

- ◆ Format/Mechanics
- ◆ Content, and
- ◆ Analysis

The “Analysis” category was further sorted by the following resource and/or issue areas to assess the public and agency concerns related to the proposed study.

- |                               |                             |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| ◆ Agriculture Resources       | ◆ Biological Resources      |
| ◆ Cultural Resources          | ◆ Energy / Power Production |
| ◆ Groundwater                 | ◆ Hydrology                 |
| ◆ Land Use / Planning         | ◆ Population / Housing      |
| ◆ Public Services             | ◆ Recreation                |
| ◆ Reservoir Management        | ◆ Socio-economics           |
| ◆ Transboundary Impacts       | ◆ Transportation / Traffic  |
| ◆ Utilities / Service Systems | ◆ Water Supply / Quantity   |
| ◆ Water Quality               | ◆ Water Rights              |
| ◆ Water Use                   | ◆ Miscellaneous             |
| ◆ Alternatives                |                             |

This approach facilitated a comprehensive identification of all issues that were presented with respect to the proposed development of additional Colorado River management strategies to address operations of Lake Powell and Lake Mead, including Lower Basin Shortage Guidelines, under low reservoir conditions. Results from this analysis are summarized in the following sections of this report.

## Overview of Number of Commentors and Comments

A total of 1,087 written comment letters were received and these contained some 5,060 comments. Some 924 of the 1,087 letters received consisted of form letters sent by different individual commentors. There were two different form letters. The first form letter was repeated 15 times. The text and comments in these 15 form letters were essentially the same. The second form letter was repeated 909 times. Similarly, the text and comments in these 909 form letters were also essentially the same. As such, of the 1,087 comment letters received, only some 165 can be considered unique.

Table 2 provides a summary of the number of comment letters and comments by Commentor Type.

**Table 2**  
**Number of Commentors Submitting Written Comments**

Comment / Factor	Commenter Type						Total
	Business	Federal Agency	Special Interest / Environmental Group	Individual	Local Agency / Water District	State Agency	
Total Number of Written Comment Letters Received	3	5	13	1054	8	4	<b>1,087</b>
Total Number Comments Provided Within The Comment Letters	5	32	67	4,897	27	32	<b>5,060</b>
Number of Unique Comment Letters Received	3	5	13	132	8	4	<b>165</b>
Number of Unique Comments	5	32	32	48	20	28	<b>149<sup>1</sup></b>

Notes:

1. The total number of Unique Comments is different than the numeric sum of the unique comments of the different Commentor types because some of the comments are common between the different Commentor types.

### **Use of Results in the Proposed Study**

Based on the public comments provided in this preliminary public input process, Reclamation has determined that the adoption and implementation of one or more additional Colorado River management strategies and /or guidelines will, most likely, represent a federal action that may be subject to review under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). As such, Reclamation is proceeding, at this time, under the assumption that the development of the management strategies and guidelines will require preparation of an EIS.

Reclamation will undertake the subject study effort in a multi-phased approach. The proposed first phase of the study (Phase I) is expected to be comprised of a more thorough public scoping process which will include a formal consultation process with the seven Colorado River Basin States, Tribal Governments, other stakeholders and interested parties. This process is expected to generate a range of alternatives and issues to be considered and addressed in the subsequent phases of the study.

Copies of the detailed comment letters and their analyses will be combined and evaluated with additional comments that are anticipated will be received during the Public Scoping process. The combined set of comments will subsequently be evaluated and thereafter will be provided to all resource specialists on the study team to ensure that they consider the relevant issues in their technical analyses as the study proceeds.

### **Proposed Public Scoping Phase and Scoping Meetings**

One of the required activities associated with preparation of an EIS is the solicitation and review of public and agency input as a component of the identification and analysis of potential environmental impacts and alternatives. This process of determining the key environmental issues to be addressed in the EIS document is termed “scoping.” The scoping for this project will be a separate and additional step from this preliminary public input process.

# Attachments

- A. Acronyms
- B. Federal Register Notice
- C. Notices of Public Meetings – News Releases
  - C.1 June 15, 2005, News Release
  - C.2 July 22, 2005, News Release
- D. Public Meeting Sign-In Sheets
  - D.1 July 26, 2005, Henderson, Nevada, Sign-In Sheet (1)
  - D.2 July 26, 2005, Henderson, Nevada, Sign-In Sheet (2)
  - D.3 July 26, 2005, Henderson, Nevada, Sign-In Sheet (3)
  - D.4 July 28, 2005, Salt Lake City, Utah, Sign-In Sheet (1)
  - D.5 July 28, 2005, Salt Lake City, Utah, Sign-In Sheet (2)
- E. Public Meeting Presentation



# **Attachment A**

## **Acronyms**

## Acronyms

AF	acre feet
af/yr	acre-feet per year
CEQ	Council on Environmental Quality
Department	Department of the Interior
maf	Million Acre-Feet
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NOI/NOP	Notice of Intent/Notice of Preparation
Proposed Project	Development of Management Strategies for Lake Powell and Lake Mead, including Lower Basin Shortage Guidelines, Under Low Reservoir Conditions
Secretary	Secretary of the Department of the Interior
Reclamation	U.S. Bureau of Reclamation

# **Attachment B**

## **Federal Register Notice**

Bureau of Land Management lands, inquiries may also be directed to Taylor Brelsford, Subsistence Coordinator, Alaska State Office, 222 West 7th Avenue, #13, Anchorage, Alaska 99513; phone (907) 271-5806.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Regional Council discussion during the meeting will be devoted to the review and recommendation of the East Alaska Draft Resource Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement.

Dated: June 7, 2005.

Henri R. Bisson,  
State Director.

[FR Doc. 05-11774 Filed 6-14-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-JA-P

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Reclamation

#### Colorado River Reservoir Operations: Development of Management Strategies for Lake Powell and Lake Mead Under Low Reservoir Conditions

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Reclamation, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice to solicit comments and hold public meetings on the development of management strategies for Lake Powell and Lake Mead, including Lower Basin shortage guidelines, under low reservoir conditions.

**SUMMARY:** The Secretary of the Interior (Secretary) has directed the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) to develop additional Colorado River management strategies to address operations of Lake Powell and Lake Mead under low reservoir conditions. It is anticipated that, among other potential elements, these strategies could identify those circumstances under which the Department of the Interior (Department) would reduce annual water deliveries, and the manner in which annual operations would be modified.

**DATES AND ADDRESSES:** Two public meetings will be held to solicit comments on the content, format, mechanism, and analysis to be considered during the development of management strategies for Lake Powell and Lake Mead under low reservoir conditions. Oral and written comments will be accepted at the public meetings to be held at the following locations:

- *Tuesday, July 26, 2005*—10 a.m. to 12 noon, Henderson Convention Center, Grand Ballroom, 200 South Water Street, Henderson, Nevada.
- *Thursday, July 28, 2005*—10 a.m. to 12 noon, Hilton Salt Lake City Center,

Topaz Room, 255 South West Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah.

Written comments on the proposed development of these strategies may be sent by close of business on *Wednesday, August 31, 2005*, to: Regional Director, Bureau of Reclamation, Lower Colorado Region, Attention: BCOO-1000, P.O. Box 61470, Boulder City, Nevada 89006-1470, fax at 702-293-8156, or e-mail at [strategies@lc.usbr.gov](mailto:strategies@lc.usbr.gov); and/or Regional Director, Bureau of Reclamation, Upper Colorado Region, Attention: UC-402, 125 South State Street, Salt Lake City, Utah 84318-1147, fax at 801-524-3858, or e-mail at [strategies@uc.usbr.gov](mailto:strategies@uc.usbr.gov).

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Terrance J. Fulp, Ph.D., at 702-293-8500 or e-mail at [strategies@lc.usbr.gov](mailto:strategies@lc.usbr.gov); and/or Randall Peterson at 801-524-3633 or e-mail at [strategies@uc.usbr.gov](mailto:strategies@uc.usbr.gov). If special assistance is required regarding accommodations for attendance at either of the public meetings, please call Nan Yoder at 702-293-8495, fax at 702-293-8156, or e-mail at [nyoder@lc.usbr.gov](mailto:nyoder@lc.usbr.gov) no less than 5 working days prior to the applicable meeting(s).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** In recent years the Department has undertaken a number of initiatives to improve the efficient and coordinated operation and management of the Colorado River. For example, a number of Indian water rights settlements have been enacted and implemented, while additional settlements are under active negotiation. Important programs have been developed in the Upper and Lower Basins to address conservation of endangered species. Scientific investigations are proceeding under the framework of the Glen Canyon Adaptive Management Program to study the impacts to and improve the values for which the Grand Canyon National Park and the Glen Canyon National Recreation Area were established. In 2003, water users in California executed agreements that will assist California to limit its use of water from the Colorado River to its normal year apportionment of 4.4 million acre-feet (maf).

More recently a new management challenge has emerged on the Colorado River. The Colorado River Basin has experienced the worst five-year drought in recorded history. Drought in the Basin has impacted system storage, while demands for Colorado River water supplies have continued to increase. During the period from October 1, 1999, to October 1, 2004, storage in Colorado River reservoirs fell from 55.7 maf to 29.7 maf.

In the future, low reservoir conditions may not be limited to drought periods as additional development of Colorado River water occurs. The Colorado River is of strategic importance in the southwestern United States for water supply, hydropower production, recreation, fish and wildlife habitat, and other benefits. In addition, the Republic of Mexico has an allocation to the waters of the Colorado River pursuant to a 1944 treaty with the United States.

In a May 2, 2005, letter to the Governors of the Colorado River Basin States, issued in the context of the 2005 Annual Operating Plan mid-year review, the Secretary directed Reclamation to develop additional strategies to improve coordinated management of the reservoirs in the Colorado River system. Pursuant to that direction, Reclamation conducted a public consultation workshop on May 26, 2005, in Henderson, Nevada, and has prepared this **Federal Register** notice. In order to assure the continued productive use of the Colorado River into the future, Reclamation is soliciting public comments on, at a minimum, the development of management strategies for the operation of Lake Powell and Lake Mead under low reservoir conditions.

It is the Department's intent that the development of additional management strategies, including Lower Basin Shortage Guidelines, will provide guidance to the Secretary's Annual Operating Plan decisions, and provide more predictability to water users throughout the Basin, particularly those in the Lower Division States of Arizona, California, and Nevada. For example, in 2001 the Department adopted Interim Surplus Guidelines (66 FR 7772) that are used by the Secretary in making annual determinations regarding "Normal" and "Surplus" conditions for the operation of Lake Mead. Among other provisions, these Guidelines have allowed the Department and entities in Arizona, California, and Nevada that rely on the Colorado River greater predictability in identifying when Colorado River water in excess of 7.5 maf will be available for use within these three states. In contrast, at this time the Department does not have detailed guidelines in place for annual determinations of releases from Lake Mead of less than 7.5 maf to water users in the three Lower Division States (often referred to as a "shortage" condition on the lower Colorado River). Therefore, water users who rely on the Colorado River in these states are not currently able to identify particular reservoir conditions under which the Secretary would release less than 7.5 maf for use

on an annual basis. Nor are these water users able to identify the amount of any potential future annual reductions in water deliveries. By developing additional management strategies, these users would be better able to plan for periods of less than full water deliveries. Additional operational tools may also facilitate conservation of reservoir storage, thereby minimizing the adverse effects of long-term drought or low-reservoir conditions in the Colorado River Basin.

Over the past year, the seven Colorado River Basin States have been proactively discussing strategies to address the current system-wide drought in the Colorado River Basin. In addition, Reclamation has conducted detailed briefings for stakeholders in the Colorado River Basin and other interested entities regarding future scenarios for Colorado River operations. Reclamation will integrate available technical information in the upcoming development of additional management strategies for Colorado River operations.

Reclamation intends to utilize a public process during the development of management strategies for Lake Powell and Lake Mead under low reservoir conditions. By this notice, Reclamation invites all interested members of the general public, including the seven Colorado River Basin States, Indian Tribes, water and power contractors, environmental organizations, representatives of academic and scientific communities, representatives of the recreation industry, and other organizations and agencies to present oral and written comments concerning the content, format, mechanism, and analysis to be considered during the development of these proposed strategies.

Reclamation has not yet determined the appropriate level of National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation for the upcoming development of additional management strategies. However, to ensure timely consideration of technical information and public comment, Reclamation is proceeding, at this time, as if the development of additional management strategies would require preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement. Information received by Reclamation pursuant to this **Federal Register** notice and the upcoming public meetings will be analyzed in order to define the nature of any proposed federal actions, the level of appropriate NEPA documentation, and the need, if any, for additional scoping activities. In addition to NEPA documentation, other compliance activities, as appropriate,

will be undertaken pursuant to applicable Federal law.

#### Public Disclosure

Written comments, including names and home addresses of respondents, will be made available for public review. Individual respondents may request that their home address be withheld from public disclosure, which will be honored to the extent allowable by law. There may be circumstances in which respondents' identity may also be withheld from public disclosure, as allowable by law. If you wish to have your name and/or address withheld, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your comment. All submissions from organizations, business, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, will be made available for public disclosure in their entirety.

Dated: June 6, 2005.

Darryl Beckmann,  
Deputy Regional Director—UC Region,  
Bureau of Reclamation.

Dated: June 7, 2005.

Robert W. Johnson,  
Regional Director—LC Region, Bureau of  
Reclamation.

[FR Doc. 05-11776 Filed 6-14-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-MN-P

## DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

### Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comments Requested

**ACTION:** 60-day notice of information collection under review: Annual Report to Congress—Expired COPS Awards Exceeding \$5 Million.

The Department of Justice (DOJ) Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) has submitted the following information collection request to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. The proposed information collection is published to obtain comments from the public and affected agencies. The purpose of this notice is to allow for 60 days for public comment until August 15, 2005. This process is conducted in accordance with 5 CFR 1320.10.

If you have comments especially on the estimated public burden or associated response time, suggestions, or need a copy of the proposed

information collection instrument with instructions or additional information, please contact Rebekah Dorr, Department of Justice Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, 1100 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20530.

Written comments and suggestions from the public and affected agencies concerning the proposed collection of information are encouraged. Your comments should address one or more of the following four points:

- Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;
- Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
- Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and
- Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

#### Overview of This Information Collection

(1) *Type of Information Collection:* New Collection.

(2) *Title of the Form/Collection:* Annual Report to Congress—Expired COPS Awards Exceeding \$5 Million.

(3) *Agency form number, if any, and the applicable component of the Department sponsoring the collection:* Form Number: None. Office of Community Oriented Policing Services.

(4) *Affected public who will be asked or required to respond, as well as a brief abstract:* Primary: State, Local, or Tribal Government. Law enforcement agencies that are recipients of COPS grants over \$5,000,000 that are programmatically and financially closed out or that otherwise ended in the immediately preceding fiscal year.

(5) *An estimate of the total number of respondents and the amount of time estimated for an average respondent to respond/reply:* It is estimated that approximately 10 respondents annually will complete the form within one hour.

(6) *An estimate of the total public burden (in hours) associated with the collection:* There are approximately 10 total annual burden hours associated with this collection.

# **Attachment C**

## **Notice of Public Meetings**

### **C.1 June 15, 2005, News Release**

# **News Release**

## **June 15, 2005**

Lower Colorado Region  
Boulder City, Nev.

Media Contact:

Bob Walsh  
702-293-8421

Barry Wirth  
801-524-3774

Released On: June 15, 2005

### **Reclamation Seeks Public Comment on Development of Management Strategies for Lake Powell and Lake Mead Under Low Reservoir Conditions**

The Bureau of Reclamation today filed a Federal Register Notice requesting public comment on the development of management strategies for Lakes Powell and Mead, on the Colorado River, under low reservoir conditions. Among the management strategies anticipated are shortage guidelines for the Lower Colorado River Basin.

The strategies will likely identify those circumstances under which the Department of the Interior would reduce annual Colorado River water deliveries and the manner in which annual operations of the Colorado River reservoirs would be modified under low reservoir conditions.

The Department expects the strategies to provide guidance to the Secretary's Annual Operating Plan decisions, and provide more predictability to water users throughout the Basin, particularly the Lower Basin states of Arizona, California, and Nevada.

The Annual Operating Plan - developed in consultation with the Basin States, water and power users, Tribes, environmental and recreational groups and other interested parties - guides operation of the Colorado River. Among other elements, it specifies whether the amount of Colorado River water available to be released from Lake Mead to Lower Basin users in a given year will be "normal" (7.5 million acre-feet), "surplus" (more than 7.5 million acre-feet) or "shortage" (less than 7.5 million acre-feet).

Interim Surplus Guidelines were adopted in 2001 for use in making annual determinations regarding "normal" and "surplus" conditions. Those guidelines allow the Department and entities in Arizona, California, and Nevada to have greater predictability in identifying when more than 7.5 maf of Colorado River water will be available for use within these three states.

Adoption of detailed guidelines for making "shortage" determinations would enable water users in the three states to identify reservoir conditions under which less than 7.5 maf would be available for use on an annual basis, as well as the amount of any potential future annual reductions in water deliveries. This would allow these users to better plan for periods of less than full water deliveries. Additional operational tools may also facilitate conservation of reservoir storage, minimizing the adverse effects of long-term drought or low-reservoir conditions in the Colorado River Basin.

Reclamation will use a public process to develop these strategies. To begin that process, Reclamation is soliciting comments from all interested parties on the content, format, mechanism and analysis to be considered during their development.

There will be two public meetings to solicit comments, but individuals or entities that cannot attend the meetings may still submit comments, to the addresses and within the timeframes noted below.

The dates, times and locations of the public meetings are:

- Tuesday, July 26, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon PDT at the Henderson Convention Center Grand Ballroom, 200 South Water Street, Henderson, Nevada; and
- Thursday, July 28, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon MDT at the Hilton Salt Lake City Center Topaz Room, 255 South West Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah.

Oral and written comments will be accepted at these meetings.

All comments must be received by close of business (4:00 p.m. Mountain Daylight or Pacific Daylight Time) on Wednesday, August 31, 2005.

Comments can be mailed, faxed, or e-mailed to:

Regional Director, Bureau of Reclamation, Lower Colorado Region, Attention: BCOO-1000, P.O. Box 61470, Boulder City, Nevada 89006-1470, (702) 293-8156, [strategies@lc.usbr.gov](mailto:strategies@lc.usbr.gov); and/or Regional Director, Bureau of Reclamation, Upper Colorado Region, Attention: UC-402, 125 South State Street, Salt Lake City, Utah 84318-1147, (801) 524-3858, [strategies@uc.usbr.gov](mailto:strategies@uc.usbr.gov).

The full Federal Register Notice is available on Reclamation's Web site, at <http://www.usbr.gov/lc/region/g4000/docs/strategies.pdf>



# **Attachment C**

## **Notice of Public Meetings**

### **C.2 July 22, 2005, News Release**

# News Release

July 22, 2005

Lower Colorado Region  
Boulder City, Nev.

Media Contact:

Robert Walsh  
702-293-8421

Doug Hendrix  
801-524-3837

Released On: July 22, 2005

## **Public meetings seek comment on development of management strategies for Lake Powell and Lake Mead under low reservoir conditions**

Public meetings will be held in Las Vegas, NV, and in Salt Lake City, UT, on July 26 and July 28, respectively, to solicit comments on the content, format, mechanism and analysis Reclamation should consider during the development of management strategies for Lake Powell and Lake Mead under low reservoir conditions.

The strategies will likely identify those circumstances under which the Department of the Interior would reduce annual Colorado River water deliveries to users in Nevada, Arizona and California, and the manner in which annual operations of these two Colorado River water bodies would be modified under low reservoir conditions.

The dates, times and locations of the meetings are:

- Tuesday, July 26, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon PDT at the Henderson Convention Center Grand Ballroom, 200 South Water Street, Henderson, Nevada.
- Thursday, July 28, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon MDT at the Hilton Salt Lake City Center Topaz Room, 255 South West Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah.

Oral and written comments will be accepted at the meetings. Entities or individuals who are unable to attend a meeting but who wish to submit comments can do so until 4:00 p.m. Mountain or Pacific Daylight Time on Wednesday, August 31, 2005. Comments can be mailed, faxed, or e-mailed to:

Regional Director, Bureau of Reclamation, Lower Colorado Region, Attention: BCOO-1000, P.O. Box 61470, Boulder City, Nevada 89006-1470, (702) 293-8156, [strategies@lc.usbr.gov](mailto:strategies@lc.usbr.gov); and/or Regional Director, Bureau of Reclamation, Upper Colorado Region, Attention: UC-402, 125 South State Street, Salt Lake City, Utah 84138-1147, (801) 524-3858, [strategies@uc.usbr.gov](mailto:strategies@uc.usbr.gov).

A Federal Register Notice regarding this proposed action is available on Reclamation's Web site, at [www.usbr.gov/lc/riverops.html/strategies.pdf](http://www.usbr.gov/lc/riverops.html/strategies.pdf)

## **Attachment D**

### **Public Meeting Sign-In Sheets**

#### **D.1 July 26, 2006, Henderson, Nevada Sign-In Sheet (1)**

Development of Management Strategies for Lake Powell and Lake Mead  
under Low Reservoir Conditions Public Meeting

Henderson Convention Center  
Henderson, Nevada  
July 26, 2005, 10:00 AM

CONTACT INFORMATION FOR INTEREST MAILING LIST

Name	Agency	Phone	Email Address
1. <u>Margaret George</u>	<u>MCWA</u>	<u>505 7785 9388</u>	<u>mrglww@npgcable.co</u>
2. <u>V. DANDOS</u>	<u>AMNWA</u>	<u>602 248 482</u>	<u>vdandas@amnwah.org</u>
3. <u>Abbas Amirteymen</u>	<u>CRB</u>	<u>818 548 3023</u>	<u>abamir@crb.ca.gov</u>
4. <u>DON GROSS</u>	<u>AOWR</u>	<u>623-417-2400</u>	<u>djgross@AZwater.gov</u>
5. <u>Krystal Prazinsky</u>	<u>Brown &amp; Caldwell</u>	<u>702-266-8083</u>	<u>kprazinsky@brownccld.com</u>
6. <u>Anthony Miller</u>	<u>CRC of NV</u>	<u>702-486-2516</u>	<u>anthony.miller@crc.nv.gov</u>
7. <u>JAN MATUSAK</u>	<u>MWD</u>	<u>213-217-6772</u>	<u>jmatusak@mwdh2o.com</u>
8. <u>Sandra Donnelly</u>	<u>Big Bend WD</u>	<u>(702) 639-5631</u>	<u>sdonnelly@cleanwaterteam.com</u>
9. <u>Harvey Boyce</u>	<u>Ari 2 Pwr Auth</u>	<u>(602) 542-4263</u>	<u>harvey@powerauthority.org</u>
10. <u>Phillip Lehn</u>	<u>CRC of NV</u>	<u>702-486-2669</u>	<u>plehn@crc.nv.gov</u>
11. <u>Ernie Buschman</u>	<u>SCMR</u>	<u>702-361-6440</u>	<u>Buschman EPE@Aol.Com</u>
12. <u>Janice D. Paul</u>	<u>City of Billhead City</u>	<u>(928) 763-0123</u>	<u>janice@billheadcity.com</u>
13. <u>PERRI BENENEDIS</u>	<u>AOWR</u>	<u>602 417 2400 X7171</u>	<u>pfbenenedis@azwater.gov</u>
14. <u>Patrick F Quinn</u>	<u>Nellis AFD</u>	<u>702-652-6121</u>	<u>patrick.quinn@nellis.af.mil</u>
15. <u>Joli Algotz</u>	<u>FT Mojave Tribe</u>	<u>928 346-1606</u>	<u>jalgots@ftmojave.com</u>
16. <u>CHARLES F MOON</u>	<u>CHUMARIN INDIAN TRIBE</u>	<u>760 858-4219</u>	<u>charles@yahoos.com</u>
17. <u>Tom Hine</u>	<u>AZ Power Auth</u>	<u>619 818 9392</u>	<u>thineesg@yahoo.com</u>
18. <u>JULIAN RHINEHART</u>		<u>702 258-4046</u>	<u>JULIANR@COX.NET</u>
19. <u>DAVID HASKELL</u>	<u>TURNING RIVERS</u>	<u>928 567 8873</u>	<u>dhaskell@peoplepc.com</u>
<u>JAMES G. R. FISHING CLUB</u>		<u>702-565 5396</u>	<u>fishinclub@AOL.com</u>

## **Attachment D**

### **Public Meeting Sign-In Sheets**

#### **D.2 July 26, 2005, Henderson, Nevada Sign-In Sheet (2)**

**Development of Management Strategies for Lake Powell and Lake Mead  
under Low Reservoir Conditions Public Meeting**

**Henderson Convention Center  
Henderson, Nevada  
July 26, 2005, 10:00 AM**

**CONTACT INFORMATION FOR INTEREST MAILING LIST**

Name	Agency	Phone	Email Address
20. Gary Warsletski	NPS-LAKE Mead/NRA	293-8920	gary-warsletski@nps.gov
21. Brian Young	WAPA-DSU	602-605-2524	byoung@wapa.gov
22. Jim Holland	NPS LAKE MEAD NRA	702 293 8886	Jim.Holland@nps.gov
23. Kara Gillon	Defenders Wildlife	505-248-0118 435-259-1063	kgillon@defenders.org
24. JOHN WEISHEIT	LIVING RIVER/CO. RIVERKISPER		JOHN@LIVINGRIVERS.ORG
25. MICHAEL B. JACKSON	Attorney	(530)283-1007	mjackson@sbcglobal.net
26. KATHLEEN RICHARDS	CITY OF HENDERSON	267-2516	kathleen.richards@cityofhenderson.com
27. Ken Rice	BOR	928-645-0401	Kerice@ic.usbr.gov
28. Ken Baughman	Welltin-Mohawk	422-785-3351	kbaughman@wmidd.org
29. Jeremy Dault	BOR	293 8423	
30. JOANN SchocH	CONGR US. J. PORTER	387-4941	
31. BRIAN McBRIDE	" "	" "	
32. AUSA Divine	I.I.D.	760-339-9036	ajdivine@iid.com
33. GEORGE CAAN	CRC	702-486-2670	gcaan@crccv.gov
34. Jerry Zimmerman	Colorado River Board of CR	818-543-412	jvzimmerman@crbicagov
35. Robert S. Lynch	Attorney	602 259-5908	rslynch@rslynch.aty.com
36. Bruce Moore	BOR	293-8553	bmoore@ic.usbr.gov
37. J. BARRY SHIPLE	USAF-NEWIS AFB	652-8228	james.shipper@kris.af.mil

## **Attachment D**

### **Public Meeting Sign-In Sheets**

#### **D.3 July 26, 2005, Henderson, Nevada Sign-In Sheet (3)**

**Development of Management Strategies for Lake Powell and Lake Mead  
under Low Reservoir Conditions Public Meeting**

**Henderson Convention Center  
Henderson, Nevada  
July 26, 2005, 10:00 AM**

**CONTACT INFORMATION FOR INTEREST MAILING LIST**

Name	Agency	Phone	Email Address
38. Tom Maher	SNWA	702-862-3702	tom.maher@snwa.com
39. Jim Davenport	LRCA	702-486-2689	jdavenport@lrca.nv.gov
40. Doyle Wilson	Lake Havasu City	928-453-6660	wilsondo@lhcab.gov
41. Michael Amey	Self	702-255-1536	mcamey1@aol.com
42. Ed Kehring	Self	702-796-9079	edv2@cox.net
43. Henry Brown	LV Review Journal	702-383-0350	hbrown@reviewjournal.com
44. Erickson	Colorado Water Users D.	720-555-8522	erickson@cwud.org
45. Wm Davis	Self	293-1097	
46. Peggy Reef	SNWA	822-3309	peggy.reef@snwa.com
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## **Attachment D**

### **Public Meeting Sign-In Sheets**

#### **D.4 July 28, 2005, Salt Lake City, Utah Sign-In Sheet (4)**

**Development of Management Strategies for Lake Powell and Lake Mead  
under Low Reservoir Conditions Public Meeting**

**Hilton Hotel  
Salt Lake City, Utah  
July 28, 2005, 10:00 AM**

**CONTACT INFORMATION FOR INTEREST MAILING LIST**

Name	Agency	Phone	Email Address
1. JOHN WEISHEIT	LIVING RIVERS	435-259-1063	JOHN@LIVINGRIVERS.ORG
2. Michael Garrod	Sweetwater Authority	(619) 409-6752	mgarrod@sweetwater.org
3. KIM ROBERTS	NATC TANK SPR	928-608-1205	KIM.ROBERTS@NPS.GOV
4. PERRI BENZAKIS	ADWR	602-4172100	perbenzakis@azwater.gov
5. STEVEN WARD	FRIENDS of LAKE POWELL	928-645-1001	WARD-STEVE@ARAMARK.COM
6. Dae Holladay	Holiday Exp.	801-266-2087	dae@bikerest
7. CURR BARRETT	CREDA	435-882-0164	cibarr@attglobal.net
8. Stephen Trimble	writer/photographer	801-364-3031	stave@stephentrimble.net
9. Chuck Klingenstein	Jobs + Skills	953-4925	cklingenstein@janet.com
10. Werner A. Ruemmo	seft	298-5011	wruemmo@msn.com
11. JIM WECHSLER	SIERRA CLUB	801-583-2090	jwex@erols.net
12. Sam Loftin	WAPA	801-524-6381	loftin@wapa.gov
13. Ted Rampton	WAMPS	801-566-3938	ted@wamps.com
14. JARED HANSEN	CUWCD	801-226-7152	Jhansen@cuwcd.com
15. Jason Wisser	BRANCA BL	801-933-5122	jwisser@brancabl.com
16. Mark Thigson	ASSOC. REG	801-222-8405	
17. Dan Resmondo	ARAMARK	928-615-1011	Resmondo-Dan@ARAMARK.COM
18. Clayton Palmer	WAPA	(801) 524-3522	CSPalmer@wapa.gov
19. Jayne Kelleher	Reclamation	801-524-3610	jkelleher@reusbr.gov

## **Attachment D**

### **Public Meeting Sign-In Sheets**

#### **D.5 July 28, 2005, Salt Lake City, Utah Sign-In Sheet (5)**

**Development of Management Strategies for Lake Powell and Lake Mead  
under Low Reservoir Conditions Public Meeting**

**Hilton Hotel  
Salt Lake City, Utah  
July 28, 2005, 10:00 AM**

**CONTACT INFORMATION FOR INTEREST MAILING LIST**

Name	Agency	Phone	Email Address
20. <u>Bob Brister</u>		(801) 363- <del>888</del> 898	bbrister@greens.org
21. <u>Serry Zimmerman</u>	CRR	818-543-4676	szimmerman@crbca.gov
22. <u>D. Larry Anderson</u>	UT Div of Water Res.	538-72576	larryanderson@utd.gov
23. <u>Don Ostler</u>	Upper Colo. R. Comm.	801-531-1150	dostler@uc.usbr.gov
24. <u>Randy Seacholm</u>	Colo. Water Cons Bd.	303-866-3441	randy.seacholm@state.co.us
25. <u>Paul Rusanowski</u>	Shupeley Group	888-270-2157	p.rusanowski@shupeleygroup.com
26. <u>Tom Maher</u>	SNWA	702-862-3702	tom.maher@snwa.com
27. <u>Bill Rideout</u>	DOI	534-3639	billrideout@msn.com
28. <u>BOYD CLAYTON</u>	UTAH WATER RIGHTS	801-538-7390	boydclayton@utah.gov
29. <u>Robert Kyo</u>	WBR	801-336-775	RobertKyo@utah.gov
30. <u>Barry Wirth</u>	Reclamation	801-524-3774	bwirth@uc.usbr.gov
31. <u>Arlo Hyde</u>		801-451-6245	
32. <u>Doug Hendrix</u>	BOB	(901) 524-3837	dhendrix@uc.usbr.gov
33. <u>Daniel Hafner</u>	Dick Powell	435-896-5890	dghafner@utah.gov
34. _____	_____	_____	_____
35. _____	_____	_____	_____
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# **Attachment E**

## **Public Meeting Presentation**



## **Public Meeting Management Strategies**

- Welcome and Introductions
- Purpose of Meeting
- Information on Issues/Processes
- Questions and Comments

## **Purpose of Meeting**

- Solicit comments on content, format, mechanisms and analysis to be considered to address drought and other management challenges

## **Setting**

- Drought conditions have impacted storage in the Colorado system
- To date, there has never been a shortage in the Lower Basin and there are currently no shortage guidelines
- Seven Basin States are discussing potential operational scenarios to lessen the impacts of drought conditions
- May 2005 – Secretary directed Reclamation to engage in a process to develop operational guidelines for Lakes Powell and Mead and Lower Basin shortage guidelines

## **Setting**

- June 15<sup>th</sup> – Federal Register notice to solicit comments on content, format, mechanisms and analysis to be considered to address drought and other management challenges
- Examples of management challenges:
  - Drought
  - Level of development
  - Decreasing system storage

## **Objectives**

- Develop additional operational guidelines for Reclamation to apply in its annual operations
- Address potentially resolvable issues
- Avoid unnecessary, protracted or destabilizing litigation



## **Process Schedule**

- Federal Register notice issued on June 15, 2005
  - Public Meetings on July 26 & 28, 2005
  - Comment period closes August 31, 2005
- Complete public process by December 2007
- Other – ongoing discussions among the Basin States

## **Content and Format**

- Lower Basin shortage guidelines
- Lake Mead/Lake Powell operations under low reservoir conditions
- Other?

## **Mechanisms**

- Implement through Annual Operating Plan
- Modify Long-Range Operating Criteria
- Formal rulemaking
- Interim v. permanent guidelines
- Other?

## **Questions and Comments**

Comments must be received by  
close of business:

4:00 p.m. Pacific Daylight Time  
Wednesday, August 31, 2005

Submit by mail, faxogram or e-mail to:

Regional Director  
Bureau of Reclamation  
Lower Colorado Region  
Attention: BCOO-1000  
P.O. Box 61470  
Boulder City, Nevada  
89006-1470  
fax number 702-293-8156  
e-mail: [strategies@lc.usbr.gov](mailto:strategies@lc.usbr.gov)

Regional Director  
Bureau of Reclamation  
Upper Colorado Region  
Attention: UC-402  
125 South State Street  
Salt Lake City, Utah  
84318-1147  
fax number 801-524-3858  
e-mail: [strategies@uc.usbr.gov](mailto:strategies@uc.usbr.gov)